Further, in its Annual Policy Statement for 2006-07, RBI has proposed to make it obligatory for banks to display and update, in their office/ branches as also on their websites, the details of various service charges in a format to be approved by the Reserve Bank.

After the issuing of the Credit Card guidelines it became mandatory for the banks to maintain a Do Not Call Registry containing the phone numbers of customers as well as non-customers (non-constitutes) who have informed the bank that they do not wish to receive unsolicited calls/ Short Messaging Service for marketing of its credit card products.

Financial package for Himachal Pradesh

*448. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the status/position of the financial package/assistance announced by the Prime Minister for Himachal Pradesh on the 28th May, 2005 while on a visit to the State; and

(b) the number of schemes sanctioned and funds provided for the same during the year 2005-06 by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Prime Minister, during his visit to Himachal Pradesh on 28-5-2005 announced a Special Development Initiative for Himachal Pradesh for improving the infrastructure in the State and providing financial assistance.

This Special Development Initiative include infrastructure upgradation of three universities, a special project under Bharat Nirman for achieving universal coverage of drinking water by 2007 for partially covered habitations, special assistance under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana to cover 257 panchayats, construction of railway lines, untied special plan assistance for annual plan 2005-06 and a structural adjustment loan facility.

The items included are to be taken up under State Plan Schemes, Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Central Sector Schemes over a period 2-3 years. Status of the components of Special Development Initiative is given in enclosed as Statement.

Statement

Status on the components covered in the financial package/assistance announced by PM

	Package	Ministry	Estimated cost	Sanction/fund release in 2005-06	Current Status
	Project/Scheme/Sector	Railways			
1.	(i) Development of Bhanupalli to Bilaspur-110 Kms.		Rs. 1200 crore		Financial appraisal is being done.
	(ii) Construction of Nangal Talwara railway line.		Rs. 400 crore		The State Government is accelerating the pace of land acquisition process so that track is completed by 2008.
	(iii) Construction of Baddi-Chandigarh broad gauge line.		Rs. 200 crore		A survey of the project has been under taken by the Ministry of Railways.
	(iv) Inland container Depot at Baddi				Feasibility study is being conducted by CONCOR.
		HRD			
2.	Upgradation of infrastructure in 3 Universities.		Rs. 20 crore	Rs 5 crore	For the remaining two Universities, the proposal is under examination.

	Package	Ministry	Estimated cost	Sanction/fund release in 2005-06	Current Status
		Drinking Water supply			
3.	Special Project under Bharat Nirman to achieve Universal Coverage by 2007 to cover partially covered habitations under drinking water facilities.		Rs. 518 crore	One time special allocation amounting to Rs. 188.95 crores released to the State during 2005-06	Allocation for ARWSP for the year 2006-07 is Rs. 96.63 crore
		Rural Development			
4.	Special Assistance under PMGSY to connect/cover 257 panchayats with a population of approximately 250 persons			Rs. 425 crore sanctioned under Bharat Nirman for road connectivity.	Rs. 128.68 crore sanctioned so for during the current year.
		Civil Aviation			
5.	(i) Extension of runway by 400 ft. in the case of Kangra airport to accommodate 45 seater ATR aircraft		About Rs. 100 crore		The extension of runway at Kangra airport required relocating of approach road to the Kangra airport is already been done at a cost of Rs. 33.34 lakhs.

	(ii) Extension of runway at Kullu Airport—along with installation of communication equipment		The cost not firmed up and the proposal is pending with the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
	(iii) Viability gap funding for procuring Helicopter/running helicopter services.	Gap of Rs. 1 crore per helicopter per year	The proposal is being framed by the State Government.
	Tourism		
6.	(i) Promotion of tourism at 8-10 designated Centres	Rs. 97 crore	GoI has released assistance of Rs. 8.96 crores for the following three schemes. 1. Rs. 0.24 crore for construction of Tourist Resort Centre at (Ghausi Behal). 2. Rs. 6.32 crore for Integrated Development of Chamba Circuit. 3. Rs. 2.40 crore for Integrated Development of Mandi-Bilaspur Tourism Project.

	Package	Ministry	Estimated cost	Sanction/fund release in 2005-06	Current Status
			Department of Expenditure		
7.	Special Plan Assistance of Rs. 400 crore for 2005-06 will be untied.			Ministry of Finance has released Rs. 360 crores as grant component (90%) and Rs. 40 crores (10% will be raised by the State Government from the Market based on the recommendations of the TFC).	The Special Plan Allocation of Rs. 475 crores has been made by the Planning Commission for 2006-07.
			Power		
8.	Enhancement of equity share of Himachal Pradesh's from 25% to 30% in NJPC		Not assessed		Government of India has 'in principle' agreed to the raising of the equity for Rampur Hydel Project from earlier 25% to 30%.
			Information & Broadcasting		
9.	Request for providing free of cost 20,000 set top DTH boxes to the remote two district of Lahaul Spiti and Kinnaur (the tribal areas of the State)		Not assessed	The Government of India has agreed to include Pangi and Bharmour area for supply of DTH boxes.	

		Finance		
10.	Structural Adjustment Loan facility for debt retirement and sectoral reform			Concept note on the Proposal received on May 4, 2006 is under examination.
		Water Resources		
11.	Proposal for gravity based irrigation schemes in remote areas.	Rs. 242.00 crore	Government of India has sanctioned projects assistance of Rs. 25.69 crores.	Proposals being considered under Bharat Nirman.